## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF BALLOTS.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 15-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
- 3 "(b) If absentee ballots requested under section 15-4 are
- 4 not received by a voter within five days of an election, if a
- 5 voter requires a replacement ballot within five days of an
- 6 election, or if a voter would otherwise not be able to return a
- 7 properly issued ballot by the close of polls, then a voter may
- $oldsymbol{8}$  request that absentee ballots be forwarded by electronic
- 9 transmission[-]; provided that a voter with special needs,
- 10 including a disability, may request that a ballot be forwarded
- 11 by electronic transmission at any time. Upon receipt of such a
- 12 request and confirmation that proper application was made, the
- 13 clerk may transmit appropriate ballots, together with a form
- 14 requiring the affirmations and information required by section
- 15 15-6, and a form containing a waiver of the right to secrecy, as
- 16 provided by section 11-137. The voter may return the voted
- 17 ballots and executed forms by electronic transmission or mail;

- 1 provided that they are received by the issuing clerk no later
- 2 than the close of polls on election day. Upon receipt, the
- 3 clerk shall verify compliance with the requirements of section
- 4 15-9(c) and prepare the ballots for counting pursuant to section
- 5 15-10; provided that if the voter returns multiple voted
- 6 absentee ballots for the same election, the clerk shall, for
- 7 purposes of counting ballots, prepare only the first absentee
- 8 ballot returned that is not spoiled."
- 9 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 11 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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## Report Title:

Office of Elections Package; Electronic Transmission of Ballots; Elections

## Description:

Authorizes a voter with special needs, including a disability, to request that a ballot be forwarded by electronic transmission at any time. (SD1)

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